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THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE
EDUCATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL
CHEMIST¹

IN conforming to the time-honored custom of presenting an address as retiring chairman of Section C, it occurred to me that I might not select a subject more worthy of thoughtful consideration than the education of the professional chemist. In view of the fundamental changes in conditions throughout the commercial world, affecting educational institutions by bringing forward aspects of mental training and practical applications that have no precedents in our earlier experience, it is certainly essential that this influence on modern progress receive critical attention. The recent excellent papers expressing the views of eminent teachers and practical chemists on suitable requirements for the training of young men in chemistry have ably presented the various aspects of this important subject. Yet I have thought that the last word has not been said concerning certain features of professional education, especially relating to the mental attitude of the student, and of the embryo chemist about to enter business life. It can not be doubted that the courses offered by schools of science deserve all the attention they have received in the form of suggestions and criticisms, particularly from the experience of older graduates gained in close touch with great operations in the industrial world. The

¹ Address of the vice-president and chairman of Section C, New York meeting, December, 1906.